

# The Spirit of Missions;

EDITED FOR

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS

Of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America.

PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE.

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## PROCEEDINGS.

### DOMESTIC COMMITTEE.

*July 6, 1840.—Stated Meeting.*—The Rev. Mr. Jones was called to the Chair.

The Secretary and General Agent reported his correspondence, and submitted about forty communications to the Committee. He also reported that he had attended in his place the annual meeting of the Board of Missions in this city on the 17th, 18th, and 19th of June, and, according to instruction, submitted the Annual Report of this Committee to that body; that the Report having been approved by the Board, was referred back for publication with the proceedings of the Board, which proceedings were referred to both Committees for publication; and that a proposed recommendation in relation to the mode of conducting Domestic Missions, specified in the proceedings, was referred to this Committee for consideration and report. Whereupon,

Resolved, That (the Foreign Committee concurring) the proceedings of the Board of Missions be referred to the two Secretaries for publication in accordance with the instructions of the Board.

Resolved, That the Report of this Committee be referred to the Secretary and General Agent for publication, with the proceedings.

Resolved, That the proposed recommendation, specified in the proceedings, be referred to a special committee. The committee were thereupon appointed.

On the report of the Committee on Northern Missions, the Rev. Albert Helfenstein, Sen., was appointed a missionary in Ohio, and a salary appropriated to him as missionary at Springfield.

On the report of the Committee on Southern Missions, the Rev. Wm. H. C. Yeager was appointed a missionary within Bishop Polk's jurisdiction, and a salary appropriated to him as the missionary at Little Rock, Arkansas.

### FOREIGN COMMITTEE.

*July 7, 1840.—Stated Meeting.*—The Rev. Dr. Milnor in the Chair.

Among the items of business it was reported, that the semi-

annual shipment of money and goods for the African Mission, by the Atalanta, amounted in all to \$2,504 69.

A letter from the Rev. Dr. Boone, appealing for aid, was read; and the Secretary and General Agent was instructed to publish extracts of the same, accompanied by an expression of the sentiments of the Committee in favor of additional laborers in this mission to the Chinese.

The resignation of the Rev. H. Lockwood, from the unfavorable effects of climate, was accepted on the 16th of June, but accidentally omitted in the abstract of proceedings for that meeting.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

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### DOMESTIC.

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#### ALABAMA.

FROM THE RT. REV. DR. POLK, MISSIONARY BISHOP OF ARKANSAS, AND PROVISIONAL BISHOP OF LOUISIANA AND ALABAMA.

*Columbia, May 18th, 1840.*

Among the duties devolved on me in my present station, there is none I find more difficulty in performing than in communicating to the Church the particulars of my missionary operations. These operations embrace, necessarily, a large amount of detail; to introduce all, or a considerable portion of which, would encumber the communication, and in the eyes of some burden it with an amount of unimportant particulars which good taste and a becoming modesty might well spare. Others, again, demand that nothing shall be kept back; they wish to know the details of our journeyings, that they may enter into, and share with us, our cares, our sorrows, our hopes, and our joys. They must know us in the more homely representations of our missionary engagements, or they are dissatisfied with what seems to be but a barren string of uninteresting generalities. How to meet and answer the demands of these two opposite classes is no easy task; we are the servants of the Church; all have a right to a faithful account of our labors; and it is our duty, as it certainly is our pleasure, to seek to interest the feelings and conciliate the regards of our brethren generally in behalf of our mission. A failure to effect this, therefore, we desire to be charged elsewhere than to the lack of a hearty good will on our part.

On the 29th of January I left home on my tour of visitation to the dioceses of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi, and two days afterward, filled my first appointment at Florence, Alabama. It was expected, as stated to the Committee on a former occasion, that the church edifice which has been erected at that place for more than a year, would have been ready for consecration; but in this I have been disappointed. It is still unfinished; though no efforts have been spared, so far as I learn, by the missionary, the Rev. W. A. Harris, to have it accomplished.



The day on which our services were held, was exceedingly inclement, the snow drifting heavily the greater part of the time; and as most of the congregation resided in the country, we had but few in attendance, and no confirmation. Seven candidates would have presented themselves had the weather been propitious. After morning prayer by the minister, and a sermon by myself, we proceeded to Tuscumbia, the other point embraced in the Rev. Mr. Harris' mission. Here I passed Sunday, the 2d of February. After morning prayer by Mr. Harris, assisted by the Rev. W. H. C. Yeager, I preached and administered the rite of confirmation to nine persons; and, after evening prayer by Rev. Mr. Yeager, and a sermon by myself, I administered the same rite to two other persons, privately, being invalids, and unable to appear at the church. The condition of this station I thought unusually promising. The friends of the Church are not wealthy, but they are decided; and their decision seems based upon an intelligent appreciation of the hope of the Gospel as exhibited by the Church. It is probable that the present incumbent of the station may leave, as the amount he received from his people, added to the stipend paid by the Committee, is inadequate to the support of himself and family. This, however, is depending on future developments. The station, should Mr. Harris leave, ought not to be allowed to remain vacant.

On the day following I left for Columbus, Mississippi, whither I arrived on the 6th, and where I remained until the 10th. On the 7th I preached once, on the 8th twice, and on the 9th, Sunday, three times; the Rev. M. L. Forbes, rector of the parish, reading the service in every instance. On Sunday the rite of confirmation was administered to three persons. This parish is suffering exceedingly from the pecuniary distresses of the times; the greater part of those interested in the Church being more or less entangled with their neighbors, in the difficulties which surround them. The efforts of his congregation to sustain itself, struggling, as it has had to do, against unparalleled difficulties, is worthy of all praise. The house they now occupy was consecrated by Bishop Kemper, and is the third they have attempted to rear; the two former attempts having been defeated, by violence in the one case, and faithlessness on the part of the contractor in the other. Their present building is neat and commodious, and, if they can retain possession of it,\* will afford ample accommodation to those of our brethren who dwell there. On Monday, the 10th, I went, in company with the rector of the parish, and a few of his flock, to the country, to visit a parishioner who was sick. To him we sought to administer the consolations of our faith, and having partaken with him of the comfortable Sacrament of the body and blood of our Saviour

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\* They are apprehensive of having to give up their lot, as they have not yet liquidated the debt contracted for the building, and it is doubtful whether it can be arranged to the satisfaction of the creditors. The amount of the debt is about \$2000.

Christ, I proceeded on my way, a second time, into the diocese of Alabama. Two days thereafter brought me to Tuscaloosa. On the 12th and 13th I preached, after the reading of morning prayer by the Rev. N. P. Knapp, the rector at the parish. On the latter occasion I administered the rite of confirmation to ten persons. This congregation seems united, and affords, I hear, an efficient support to their pastor.

On the morning of the 14th I left for Greensboro' and arrived on the evening of the same day. On the evening of the following day I preached to a congregation assembled in the presbyterian house of worship, the service being read by the Rev. J. E. Sawyer, the missionary of the station. The next day, being Sunday the 16th, after morning prayer by the Rev. Mr. Sawyer, (assisted by the Rev. F. R. Hanson, of St. John's, in the Prairies,) I baptized four adults, preached to a congregation of attentive hearers, and administered the rite of confirmation to ten persons. The prospects of the Church at this place, I think are very encouraging. Under the care of the Rev. Mr. Sawyer, the missionary, this flock has increased in numbers and zeal. The accessions on the occasion of my visitation were of a gratifying character. A subscription of \$4000 has been raised to build a church edifice, which they will proceed to erect without delay.

The residue of the week was consumed in visiting respectively the families of the congregations of Greensboro' and St. John's in the Prairies, and in travelling to Selma. To St. John's I proposed giving a Sunday on my return towards Mobile, and therefore held on this occasion no public services. At Selma I arrived on Saturday evening, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Hanson of St. John's; and on the day following, Sunday, 23d, after morning prayer by the missionary, the Rev. L. B. Wright, who was assisted by the Rev. Mr. Hanson, I baptized an infant and preached upon infant baptism. In the afternoon, after service by Mr. Hanson, I baptized an adult, and administered the rite of confirmation to three persons. The rector of this parish has rendered efficient service to the Church by his indefatigable efforts to erect a suitable house in which to gather his flock. The effect of our services, and the labors of our ministry, are so much dependant on having a particular place of assembling, to say nothing of the decency and duty of assigning and setting apart a house specially to the worship and glory of Almighty God, that he who has been instrumental in accomplishing this, may be said truly to have wrought a good work. The building now in progress at Selma, will be ready for consecration, it is thought, during the present season.

The day following, accompanied by Messrs. Hanson and Wright, I proceeded to Cahawba, ten miles distant, the other station embraced in Mr. Wright's mission.\* Here, after morn-

\* I was gratified to find among my auditors on this occasion two elderly gentlemen, heads of families which had been long deprived of the privilege of the sanctuary, and who had travelled 23 miles before eleven o'clock, to be present at our services.



ing service by Rev. Mr. Hanson, I preached, and there being no Episcopal act to perform, I proceeded still on my journey towards Carlowville, another missionary station. At this place I arrived, accompanied by the above named brethren, on the next day; but not in time, as we had hoped, for morning service. I was disappointed too in not finding the missionary, the Rev. F. B. Lee, at home. He had left on a short excursion, of interest to himself, before he had received my letter apprizing him of my coming. As the congregation is dispersed over a considerable extent of surface, it was not easy to collect them at a short notice, and our congregations in the afternoon and evening (on both of which occasions there was service and a sermon) were small. We understood there were some, who, had they been informed of our coming, would have been prepared to renew their baptismal engagements in confirmation.

The next day, Wednesday the 26th, I left in company with the brethren who came with me from Selma; they, to go to their parishes, I, to St. Peter's in the Prairies, Lowndes county. This is an independent parish, and supports its minister without aid from the missionary funds. Adjoining the church, which is not yet quite finished, and which is most beautifully situated on a commanding eminence at the head of a deep ravine opening in the direction of the Alabama river, stands the parsonage, a commodious building of ample accommodations for the comforts of a family, and recently erected at the expense of the congregation. Such attention to the comforts of the clergy are highly pleasing under any circumstances, but especially so in a country where, like ours, the burthen of supporting the ministry rests exclusively upon the individual exertions of the people. As these exertions are voluntary, they constitute, in their results, a very fair indication of the state of religious knowledge and feeling. God cannot but bless those who honor him, in doing honor to those whom he sends. In this parish I spent nearly two days. The families connected with it are not numerous, and are somewhat dispersed. Here, too, owing to the irregularity of the mails, my notices had miscarried, and it was only upon the second day that we could get a congregation. After morning prayer by the rector, Rev. Wm. Johnson, I baptized a child and preached. Mr. Johnson has been but a short time settled in this parish. He devotes the afternoon of Sunday to the instruction of slaves, and assures me he has encouraging prospects of usefulness. Our service being concluded, I continued my journey, accompanied by Rev. Mr. Johnson, in the direction of Montgomery. We passed the night with the family of General Campbell—friends of the Church—near Hayneville, formerly a missionary station. There are several families attached to the Church still residing around this village, and we do not despair of having it again restored to the list, and organized into an efficiently useful parish.

We arrived at Montgomery on the evening of the 29th, where

I was highly gratified in meeting with the Rev. J. J. Scott, one of our Domestic missionaries, who had been assigned to his field in Alabama, and had just arrived. Arrangements were made for services on the following day, Sunday, the 1st of March. The morning service was accordingly read by the Rev. Mr. Scott, and the lessons by Mr. Johnson, after which I preached and administered the Holy Communion. At night, the evening service being read by Mr. Johnson, a sermon was preached by Mr. Scott. The congregation at this place is without a pastor. Several attempts have been made to supply their wants, but without success. They offer adequate support, and this field is, on many accounts, interesting and inviting. It is highly important that it should be supplied as early as possible, and I commend it to the especial attention of the Committee. For the present, I think it would be advisable to unite Wetumpka, distant about 15 miles, and now a vacant station, with Montgomery. The two I fear cannot do more than support one clergyman well, at least for some time to come. The arrangement would, I presume, be agreeable to both the places.

To Wetumpka I made a visit on the day after our services at Montgomery. My design, when I left home, was to have consecrated the church erected at this place, under the direction, and by the unwearied zeal of the late missionary, Rev. R. G. Hayes. I had written him to that effect appointing the period of my visit. Before its receipt he had removed to the diocese of Pennsylvania. This I did not learn until it was too late to inform the vestry or change my appointments, so that they were not apprized of my coming until my arrival in the village. I had but one day to spare for that appointment, and as this was unhappily extremely inclement, we thought it best to postpone the service to a future visit. In the afternoon I returned to Montgomery, and, with the assistance of Rev. Mr. Scott, held service and preached at night.

On Tuesday the 3d, accompanied by Rev. Mr. Scott, I embarked on a steamboat to descend the Alabama river to Selma, where I had an appointment for the day following, Ash-Wednesday. In consequence of detention on a sand-bar, we did not reach our point of destination till so late in the day as to compel us to defer our service until the evening. After the usual service by the Rev. Mr. Scott, I administered baptism to one adult and a child, and after preaching a sermon, administered the rite of confirmation to the adult just baptized.

On Thursday the 5th, still accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Scott, I left Selma for St. John's in the Prairies, where I arrived on Saturday following. This parish is about ten miles distant from Greensboro', and numbers among its parishioners some of the most devoted friends of the Church in the diocese. Like most of the country parishes of the West, the number of its families is not large, though they yield a prompt and liberal support to the pastor, and are very much united among them-



selves. Our services of the next day were attended by a numerous assemblage of persons from the adjoining country, and by the Rev. Messrs. Sawyer and Scott of the clergy. The service and lessons being read by these brethren, I preached a sermon and administered the Holy Communion to a large number of devout recipients, among whom I was gratified to find many slaves from the adjoining estates.

On the 9th I proceeded, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Hanson, rector of St. John's, to fill an appointment made for me on the day following, in the midst of a settlement of friends of the Church in the Canebrake, a fertile region of country about 13 miles distant, in the county of Marengo. With great difficulty we accomplished our purpose, having had to travel over incomparably the worst roads I have ever encountered. The period of the appointment was very unfortunate as it occurred when most of the planters were absent on their annual visit to Mobile, and the few who remained were deterred from venturing out by the inclemency of the weather and the state of the roads. I do not doubt, nevertheless, that a congregation of great strength could be reared in that vicinity; the families are sufficiently numerous, intelligent and wealthy. An effort, it is hoped, will be made to secure a portion of the time of Rev. Mr. Hanson, until the congregation can be fully organized.

The day following found us on our way to Demopolis, one of our missionary stations, at the junction of the Tombeckbe and the Black Warrior. Here, by previous appointment, we held service, and preached, on the evening of the 11th. This station is now vacant. The friends of the Church there are anxious it should be filled, and are willing to contribute according to the measure of their ability to the support of a missionary. On the 12th I proceeded with Mr. Hanson to the "Fork of Green," about 14 miles distant, to a settlement of Episcopalians, where an appointment had been made for me on Friday the 13th, and where I met by agreement with the Rev. Messrs. Sawyer and Scott. A sharp attack of pleurisy prevented my participating in the services, which were conducted by the brethren, nevertheless; Messrs. Scott and Sawyer each having preached a sermon. No congregation had, as yet, been organized at this place. The Rev. Mr. Scott having decided to settle at Livingston, Sumter county, about 25 miles distant, it was thought advisable to add this station to that, and have them embraced in a single mission. He has by this time, I presume, organized his congregation and settled down to his work.

On Saturday the 14th, with the Rev. Mr. Scott as a companion, accompanied by several brethren of the laity, we left for Livingston to fill an appointment on the following day. This we accomplished without difficulty, and after morning prayer by Mr. Scott I administered baptism to one adult and three children, preached, and admitted three persons to the rite of confirmation. In the afternoon I preached and administered the

Holy Communion, and at night read the service for Rev. Mr. Scott, who preached. Our services on this day were deeply impressive on my own mind, and I have reason to think they were so likewise on the minds of others. On the day following five others presented themselves to renew their baptismal engagements in the solemn pledges of the rite of confirmation. I should gladly have remained among that portion of our flock longer, as they seemed truly to hunger for the bread of life; but my appointments were imperative, and I was compelled to proceed. Accordingly, on Tuesday the 17th, after administering private baptism to several children, we took our leave and departed for Mobile. We had hoped to find a boat on the Tombeckbe on the following morning, but were prevented by high water from reaching the river, which we did not in the end regret, as it furnished us with the opportunity of refreshing ourselves under the hospitable roof of a gentleman living near the river, whose family is devotedly attached to our Church. I catechized the children of the household, and found, from their prompt and intelligent answers, that their isolated situation had only secured the greater faithfulness on the part of their parents and sponsors. Such instances of Christian faithfulness are refreshing to the heart of the missionary, and bring inevitably their sure reward.

At Moscow I embarked for Mobile on the 19th, and arrived on the evening of the 20th. And here I cannot but remark upon the shocking indifference to the value of human life, and the rights of the dead, exhibited every where, more or less, on our western streams. Men are knocked overboard, and flats, and other boats, stove or blown up, by which many lives are every year lost, producing frequently nothing more than a fleeting show of sympathy, or an idle remark. I have, on more than one occasion, seen the bodies of the dead floating unnoticed among the drifting timber; and I was recently called to notice the humiliating spectacle of a bird of prey feasting on the vitals of a half-consumed corpse. These things ought not to be. They betray a depravity dishonorable to us as a people, and call loudly for active exertion on the part of those whose function it is to elevate and purify the moral sensibilities of the nation.

On the 22d, third Sunday in Lent, after morning prayer by the Rev. S. S. Lewis, rector of the parish of Christ's Church, I preached, and admitted to the rite of confirmation 17 persons. I also preached in the afternoon after service by Mr. Lewis; also on the following Tuesday afternoon—service being read by the Rev. Mr. Lewis—I preached and confirmed eight others. I met the congregation also at morning prayer the day after—being Wednesday—baptized a child and delivered an exhortation. This closed my labors in this parish, and in the diocese of Alabama. The day following I embarked for New-Orleans.

The difficulties of the past year seem not to have been lost on the citizens of Mobile. Many have blessed the rod which



has smitten them, and have turned unto the Lord with penitence and submission. The state of things in the parish of Christ Church was particularly interesting, and I was happy to perceive that it was fully met, as far as his physical strength would allow, by the indefatigable zeal of the rector, Mr. Lewis.

In surveying the field of labor embraced by the whole diocese, I find in its condition much cause for gratitude to God on the part of the Society. Its efforts have been felt, first or last, over the whole field, and it has contributed, more or less, to the founding and permanent establishment of every congregation in the diocese. These congregations will, ere long, be able to take care of themselves, and to evince this gratitude for the Society's care, by contributing of their substance for the relief of the necessities of suffering brethren dwelling in regions still more distant.

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## FOREIGN.

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### CHINA.

In publishing the following communication from the Rev. Dr. Boone, the Committee desire especially to add their sense of the affecting urgency of this appeal. They acknowledge its justice; the warm professions of interest declared a few years since, have not been fulfilled; and a mission sealed at its outset with dying love and faith, now languishes in want of Christian sympathy. Its first appointed missionary lived not to embark. In due time two others go forth, and still later, a fourth is appointed and departs. Successively he witnesses the return of his brethren; and laden with care, in a tropical climate, he now labors alone, 16,000 miles from home, till the hope of an associate almost expires within him. The Committee ask if such shall continue to be the case. Is there no one who will take up his cross, and for such an object be ready to sacrifice all? Shall the fourth and last missionary toil unsustained, till borne down by anxiety and labor he too shall be taken; and a mission demanding a faith not possessed by our Church, cease for years—perhaps for ever? The Committee would not discharge their duty did they not distinctly appeal for additional laborers, and declare their readiness to send forth and sustain them. They ask if the hopes of this mission shall expire, and be consigned to the tomb of its first missionary, or if faith shall call forth others with the spirit of a Lyde, to endure all things for Christ's sake. They ask for the prayer of faith—that they, who supplicate a divine blessing upon efforts in behalf of the Saviour's kingdom, petition with affectionate importunity for this missionary now appealing for their supplications, and for his work; and pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers. Should such an importunity be unavailing, the will of that Lord be done. But in the absence of faith and prayer, shall it be said that God is providentially calling us away from this field of labor? Nearly one half of the heathen world calls upon us to make good our professions; and that half, to all human apprehension, on the eve of important changes, to result, it may be, in favor of Christianity. Soon may a door be opened which no man shall shut. Shall not the Church, with such interests at stake, be prepared to watch the providences of God, ready to advance when he shall call?

FROM THE REV. W. J. BOONE, M. D.

*Review of the year—trials of the Mission—pledge of the Church—appeal to candidates for the ministry—schools and examination.*

*Batavia, 31st January, 1840.*—In presenting you a statement of the affairs of this mission for the last year, your missionary desires to record his devout adoration, and his heartfelt thanks—

giving to Almighty God, for the mercy and goodness which has been vouchsafed to us; for, although the past has been a year of severe trial and much suffering, yet the Lord has been graciously dealing with us in all our troubles, and caused us at all times to rejoice in him.

Early in the year we were called, with, sorrowing hearts, to witness the departure of the last one of the two brethren who came out as the first little band from our Church to the heathen. It was a sad parting, and we feared the Church at home would be discouraged by this melancholy issue of their first effort, and be slow to fill up the gap; and the lapse of almost a year, without even a hint of a successor, seems but too fully to confirm our melancholy forebodings. By my dear brother's departure I was left alone, and the hand of disease has been upon me ever since, and still continues to press me down, and to impede my progress in the Chinese; and, while laboring under this affliction, I do not venture even to conjecture what a day may bring forth. Under these circumstances it is surely not enthusiastic, but the part of sober reason and piety to inquire, why hath the Lord this controversy with us? Why have all our efforts here been nipped, as it were, in the very bud, before a single leaf has been permitted to expand and give even the promise of fruit? Your missionaries will doubtless all of them acknowledge that they find much in themselves that explains why the Lord has seen good to afflict them and to try them. And if we look at home we shall perhaps see much there also to throw light on his dealings with this mission, and to lead us to think it nothing strange that this fiery trial has been sent to try us. But in any and every view of the call, I think we may safely answer, these trials are sent not to *discourage*, but to *humble* and to *prove* us; and may the Lord, in infinite mercy, grant, that tried, humbled and purified, we may be found meet for the master's service, and may yet be permitted to sing of mercy, as well as judgment, even in this mission, where we have hitherto had so much of discouragement and trial.

I say that trials are not intended to discourage us in our work, for it is the blessed Saviour's own command to "preach the Gospel to every creature," (in which the Chinese nation, with its 360 millions, must be considered as prominently included,) and no effort to obey this command, made with humility and faith, will ever be discouraged by the Lord, who gave it. We must conclude, then, that they are designed to humble us, and to try and prove our faith and obedience.

After reviewing some of the early operations of the Church in this mission, Mr. Boone proceeds:

Was the Church pledged to more than her duty? Was the proposition of a bishop and ten presbyters disproportioned to the object proposed to be accomplished, if all persons of all ranks and classes were indeed imbued with the spirit which prompted us to claim for ourselves the honor of being divinely appointed to preach the Gospel to every creature? Ah, no!



If such was the spirit by which the whole body of the Church were influenced, not merely tens, but hundreds might be sent to the perishing millions of China. and leave hundreds more for the sable and oppressed sons of Africa, &c.

But let us pursue our sketch of the dealings of God with us in this mission. When your missionary of 1837 arrived in the field, he found one brother on the point of returning home disabled from ill health. He went home, and what was his return, but a call to the Church to revive her regard for this mission, to call to mind her first purposes, and to our young men to come forward, not in units, but in the tens proposed, so that the Committee might have no difficulty but in selecting whom the Lord would have to go for him. But what was the effect? Not an offer was made to repair this breach, not an individual moved to fill up this gap. The Lord then proceeded to make another breach, and the remaining missionary of those who first came, was sent home on the same errand, to awaken the Church to more zeal and earnestness in doing the work of the Lord—to more constant, heartfelt, importunate prayer for the 360 millions of idolaters in China. To this last message no answer has been received, and the Lord sends yet another; your remaining missionary is, and has been ill for months, and though not entirely laid aside, his disease is such that he may at any moment be called away from the scene of his earthly labors; and then the mission is ended, until our brethren, who are coming forward into the ministry, shall take these things truly to heart.

And God graciously grant that it may not have been all in vain; but should you be called again to begin your mission to the Chinese, that the prayers, tears, and groans of your missionaries on this field, may remain as bread cast upon the waters, as good seed sown that shall bring forth fruit an hundred fold to the glory of God; and that the Church, convicted, humbled and proved by these trials and disappointments, may speedily begin again with deeper humility, and a more lively faith, so that the new mission may have a deeper hold upon the hearts and prayers of the whole Church, than ever the first mission has had.

But I would now (humbly and cheerfully leaving with God the issue of the mission at present) earnestly entreat all my younger brethren in the ministry, and those at the seminaries, seriously and prayerfully to ponder these things. Are they not calls to them individually, to inquire, one after another, "Lord, is it I?" And sure I am, that if they will do this sincerely, perseveringly, and with a sincere desire to be counted worthy to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ among the Gentiles, our mission to the greatest and most populous heathen nation on earth would not languish and droop for want of men. Dear brethren, I entreat you to remember that the time will soon come when you will have done with earth, and all its transient pleasures and fleeting scenes. The day of the Lord is at hand, when these benighted millions must meet us face to face. And what will be the anguish of that man who shall then discover

that, because of his want of prayer and concern for them—that, because of his neglect to inquire what was the Lord's will concerning himself, many of these are consigned to the pit of wo, who might have been made, through his instrumentality, the redeemed of the Lord! Be it far from me, dear brethren, to call to any man as the Lord did to Abraham, "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land which I will show thee." This is the prerogative of God alone; but for this very reason it is the more incumbent upon you earnestly and unceasingly to entreat the Lord's forgiveness and direction in this matter. If, my dear brethren, you will all do this sincerely and heartily, casting off all idolatrous attachment to country, and home, and kindred, and friends—for remember, if we set up idols in our hearts, the Lord may answer us according to the multitude of our idols—if you will do this with a single eye to God's glory, and to the advancement of our blessed Redeemer's kingdom, setting aside entirely all personal predilections, you need not, my brethren, fear to meet the heathen at the bar of God; nor need any friend of the heathen fear that we shall ever want missionaries under such circumstances; for to all who truly commit their ways unto him, "God promises to direct their steps."

I will only add to this brief appeal, which I earnestly commend, dear brethren, to your sober consideration, the hearty prayer that you may all have grace to know and to perform your duties, as faithful ministers of the New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, which involves the most solemn and awful responsibilities to which any accountable being can be called during his pilgrimage.

After what has been said of the state of my own health during the whole course of the last year, the Committee will not expect an account of much labor performed. I am at present very warmly and affectionately urged to go at once to Sydney, that I may enjoy the winter in the southern hemisphere, to the propriety of which advice I think I should at once yield, if there was one here to attend to the affairs of the mission during my absence, and to keep the schools together. But under existing circumstances I have no doubt that my post is here, for the present at least, and the future is always best unreservedly left in the hands of God. I shall not be able to improve much in the Chinese language, unless I am mercifully relieved from my present affection of the head; but yet I shall, (if life is spared,) I hope, be able to retain all I have learnt, which has cost me too much hard labor not to be highly valued by myself at least. In addition to which I hope to be able to carry on, with more efficiency than heretofore, (from the advanced state of the boys,) the school in the Pasar, and that in our own family.

*The school in the Pasar* has been continued on the same plan as heretofore. The number of scholars during the past year was thirty-nine. The boys have been instructed in both the Chinese and Malay languages. They have read in the Gospel



of Matthew, in Malay, every day of the week, and recited memoriter, as a Sunday lesson at our house, where they are all assembled at three o'clock for Sunday school exercises, a portion of the Gospel of St. John, in Chinese.

I have, during the past year, prepared a set of questions in Malay on the Gospel of St. Matthew, which Mr. Medhurst has been so kind as to revise for me and to print. I think if the boys in the school at the Pasar can be made to master thoroughly all the facts of one Gospel, and to understand pretty well all the parables and other instructions of our Lord contained in it, by going over them again and again, with the aid of a book of questions, until this is in some good measure effected, though it should take one or two years; that we shall have done much more towards enabling them to understand christian tracts, and the preached word, than if we made them read the whole Bible through, without bringing their intelligence to the test of multiplied and minute questions, and causing the text to take hold upon their memories, from the necessity of framing answers from it to meet the written and impromptu questions which are presented at recitation.

*The Chinese and English School.*—Of the fifteen Chinese lads who have been in our family since March last, I can speak with great pleasure and satisfaction. Their affections appear to be very much gained by our treatment of them; their conduct has been very correct, and we have found them uniformly docile and obedient. Obedience to parents, teachers and superiors, is a fundamental point in the system of the Chinese sages, and the advantage in such a school as ours, of having boys who have been taught from infancy to obey, is incalculable. We are very much gratified to perceive constant evidence of the slow but sure influence which the truths they learn are making upon their minds; and are daily more and more convinced of the very great importance that should be attached, for a time at least to come, to such schools in those missions which seek to exercise an influence on and in China. We frequently hear of our boys, when on a visit home, reproving their parents for idolatry, telling them, almost in the very words of the apostle, "that an idol is nothing in the world." And this too is their own inference from the instructions they have received, for we have rather abstained, as yet, from attacking by name, the errors of their fathers. They have been permitted to visit their parents once in a fortnight, and to spend a night with them. They leave us every other Wednesday at four o'clock in the evening, and return next morning at six o'clock. I think we had this matter entirely in our own power, and that the Chinese parents would have yielded to any thing that we chose to demand, but we thought it better that they should visit their parents occasionally, than that they should be isolated entirely from their own people. If too entirely separated from their homes and friends, they would become completely estranged in their own feelings and lose the sympathy and affection of their kindred, which would

be one of their most valuable talents, should they hereafter, as we trust many of them will, become teachers and preachers of the Truth. We have sought therefore to pursue a medium course; to separate them sufficiently to break the influence (in a great degree at least) of the false religion and bad example they see at home, by keeping them so much with us, that these things when seen, may rather give them pain than serve as examples for imitation; and at the same time to permit them to visit their houses sufficiently often to keep alive, both in their own bosoms and in those of their parents and other relations, the natural feelings of consanguinity.

The progress of the boys in English has been truly gratifying and beyond our most sanguine expectation. They have devoted three hours a day to the English language under the tuition of Mrs. B. and myself, and six hours to the Chinese. Much the greater portion of their time, you perceive, is thus spent at the Chinese. This is necessary, the Chinese language is so difficult even to them, that they learn more of the English in three hours than they do of the Chinese in six.

At the close of the Chinese year, before dismissing the boys for a short holiday, we had an examination of Mr. M——'s school and of our own, in the English chapel; to which Europeans and Chinese were invited. Our boys read, very well indeed, the 5th Chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel in English and translated it into Malay. They recited from memory a first catechism for children, answered questions on the multiplication table, and read from the Testament in Chinese.

The audience present were very much delighted with the proficiency and progress of both schools; and we hope to derive considerable help from them, (after they shall have seen our success,) in carrying on and enlarging this good work, without calling upon the friends of missions at home to do more than support our first efforts.

We have had a great number of applications for new boys, and have no doubt we shall have many more after the Chinese new year holidays are over; but from the state of my health and the uncertainty of any assistance from home, we have determined not to admit a new class. It would be wise and economical, however, if things are more propitious, to do so, as the expense for Chinese tuition is one of the heaviest items on their account, and their teacher could very well instruct ten or fifteen more. The boys are very diligent and exceedingly anxious to learn English, of which I think it will be said they have given good proof, when it is stated that in ten months, devoting only three hours a day to it, they have learned to read it pretty well, and that when they came to us they did not know a single word of the language nor a single letter of the alphabet. Let me, then, commend this little nursery of Chinese teachers and preachers to the prayers and contributions of those who remember China in their devotions, and who pray that a wide and effec-



tual door may be opened for the preaching of the gospel to her perishing millions.

The past is ours—to mourn over its errors and shortcomings and to try to profit by them. The future belongs to God, and it is happiness itself to know that we are in *His* hands. But although the future belongs wholly to the Lord, yet He has taught us that our feeble prayers, when offered with a lively faith in our Almighty advocate, have an all prevailing efficacy with Him in whose hands that future is. May I not, then, venture to close this which is *my* first, and may be, but for their intercession, my last annual letter to the Society, with the request, that the whole Church and the Committee and our brethren in the ministry especially, would remember, at a throne of grace, the afflictions and trials which “have come upon us for the word’s sake;” and pray the Lord that we may be delivered out of them all, and spared yet to do the “work of an evangelist and make full proof of our ministry;” and, above all, with the request, that they will pray God to look down graciously upon this afflicted mission, heal all its breaches, and own and bless it as a vine which his own right hand has planted.

## INTELLIGENCE.

**EPISCOPATE OF MISSISSIPPI.**—The Rt. Rev. Dr. Polk, Missionary Bishop of Arkansas, &c., has, on account of the extent of his jurisdiction, resigned the charge of the diocese of Mississippi, which had been provisionally committed to him, and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Otey, Bishop of Tennessee, has become its provisional Bishop.

**MISSIONARY NOTICES. (DOMESTIC.)**—The Rev. A. Helfenstein, sen., has been appointed a missionary in Ohio, and assigned to Springfield.

The Rev. W. H. C. Yeager, has been appointed a missionary within Bishop Polk’s jurisdiction, and assigned to Little Rock, Arkansas.

The Rev. H. R. Peters, it is understood, has relinquished the station at Jackson, Mississippi.

A LONDON EDITION OF THE REV. MR. SOUTHGATE’S TOUR was nearly ready for publication the latter part of June.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

### DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

*Contributions received by the Treasurer of the Committee for Domestic Missions, from the 15th of June to the 15th of July, 1840.*

DIOCESE OF VERMONT.	
Sheldon, Grace Church, Mr. Jno. A. Fitch, - - -	1 00— 1 00
DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND.	
Providence, St. Stephen’s Ch., \$29 92; from the Sun. sch., \$3 23, 32 15—	32 15
DIOCESE OF CONNECTICUT.	
Middletown, Christ Church, for Illinois, \$10; for Michigan, \$10,	20 00
Norwich, Christ Church, half, - - -	17 42— 37 42
DIOCESE OF NEW-YORK.	
Hudson, Christ Church, contribution, - - -	20 00
New-York, collection after annual sermon before the Board of	
Missions, half, \$60 69; do. at the ann. miss. meet., half, \$48 27,	108 96
Individuals; a friend, \$100; a lady, for Bp. Kemper’s Miss.,	
\$25; a friend, for do., \$5, - - -	130 00—258 96
DIOCESE OF NEW-JERSEY.	
Orange, St. Mark’s Church, a lady, for Western Missions, -	10 00
Paterson, St. Paul’s Church, for Oneida Mission, - -	4 00
Individual, “J. W. H.”, quarterly, two thirds, - - -	16 67— 30 67

## DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, St. James' Ch., "Bee Hive Ass.," for Vincennes, Ind., 50 00— 50 00

## DIOCESE OF DELAWARE.

Newcastle, Immanuel Church, - - - 20 00— 20 00

## DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Prince Wm. Parish, (for Jubilee College, \$105,) - - - 290 00—290 00

## DIOCESE OF GEORGIA.

Savannah, Christ Ch., off. hf., \$26; Fem. Miss. Soc., hf., \$37 50, 63 50— 63 50

## DIOCESE OF MICHIGAN.

Ann Arbor, St. Andrew's Church, Charles Kellogg, - - - 4 00— 4 00

## DIOCESE OF INDIANA.

Madison, Christ Ch., a missionary station, contribution, - - - 1 38

Michigan City, Trin. Ch., \$26; from the Sunday School, \$8 50, 34 50— 35 88

## WISCONSIN.

Milwaukee, St. Paul's Church, a missionary station, - - - 8 00— 8 00

Total contributions, - - - \$831 58

Total payments, \$4533 13.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS.

*The Treasurer of the Foreign Committee acknowledges the receipt of the following donations from 15th June to 15th July, 1840.*

## VERMONT.

Sheldon, Mr. John A. Fitch, - - - 1 00— 1 00

## MASSACHUSETTS.

Andover, Mrs. Samuel Gray, \$3; offerings of two little girls for Africa, 50 cts., - - - 3 50

Boston, St. Paul's Ch., Ladies, for beneficiary at Athens, \$50; Missionary Association, \$76 25, - - - 126 25

Quincy, Christ Church, - - - 6 00

Roxbury, St. James' Ch., S. School, Africa, - - - 7 00

Wilkinsonville, St. John's, - - - 15 00— 157 75

## RHODE ISLAND.

Newport, Zion Ch., two members, \$5 each, to six foreign stations, 30 00

Providence, St. Stephen's Ch., - - - 14 96— 44 96

## CONNECTICUT.

Middletown, Christ Ch., Texas, \$10; Africa, \$10, - - - 20 00

Norwich, Christ Church, - - - 17 42— 37 42

## NEW-YORK.

Hempstead, St. George's Ch., monthly offerings, - - - 3 00

Manhattanville, St. Mary's Ch., S. School, - - - 2 95

New-York, St. George's Ch., Miss Maynard, for Constantinople, 5 00

One half collections in St. Bartholomew's Church, June 17, on occasion of sermon before Board of

Missions, and at the missionary meeting June 18th, 108 96

Mrs. Mitchell, for Constantinople, - - - 5 00

A friend, - - - 100 00— 224 91

## NEW-JERSEY.

Newark, Trinity Ch., J. W. H., quarterly, for Africa, - - - 8 33— 8 33

## PENNSYLVANIA.

Holmesbury, All Saints, - - - 10 00— 10 00

## VIRGINIA.

Berkely Co., Norbonne Parish, bequest of Mrs. R. Bedinger, for Africa, - - - 20 00— 20 00

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

Charleston, St. Stephen's, - - - 10 30

Edisto, Trinity Ch., Africa, \$100; Greece, \$50, - - - 150 00

Prince William Parish, \$210; China, \$60, - - - 270 00— 430 30

## GEORGIA.

Savannah, Christ Ch., offerings, \$26; Fem. Miss. Soc., \$37 50, 63 50

Female Chinese Society, for China, - - - 250 00— 313 50

## OHIO.

Zanesville, a friend, - - - 5 00

Granville, St. Luke's, \$7; Greece, 1; Fem. Sem. Miss. box, \$6; Rev. A Sanford, \$4, for Africa, - - - 18 00— 23 00

\$1271 17

N. B. Received from St. Mark's, Florida, a box for African mission.